GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3307
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2004
PROGRESS IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN ORISSA
Satpathy Shri Tathagata

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether poverty alleviation schemes of the Government have fallen flat as per a report during March 2003;

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken to make these schemes viable and beneficial, to the rural people in the country specially in Orissa;

(d) whether the Government is aware that implementing State agencies as well as State Machineries are not caring about the schemes and even haven`t called for a meeting in most of the district of Orissa;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) the extent of success achieved in this regard; and

(g) the efforts to be made to overcome the situation ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA)

(a) & (b) No, Sir. As per the progress reports received from the State Government of Orissa for the year 2003-04, total utilisation of the funds under Rural Development Schemes was Rs. 79019.80 lakhs against the total available funds of Rs.98007.96 lakhs which shows that 80.63% funds have been spent on poverty alleviation programmes.

(c) The Ministry of Rural Development has developed a comprehensive system of Monitoring the implementation of the programmes including utilisation of funds through various Mechanism such as Monitoring through periodical progress reports, Performance Review Committee (PRC), Area Officer Schemes, Inspection by State/District officials, Central Level Coordination Committee (CLCC) and State Level Coordination Committee (SLCC). In addition to this, the Ministry has also introduced Monitoring through the District Level Monitors and National Level Monitors.

(d) to (f) The State Governments including Orissa have also been advised to adopt a four point strategy i.e. creating awareness about the schemes, transparency, people`s participation and accountability- Social Audit by Gram Sabha, as evolved by the Ministry and also monitor the Rural Development Programmes effectively.

(g) The Ministry of Rural Development has been impressing upon the State Governments for timely completion of projects sanctioned under various programmes and to implement the schemes as per the programme guidelines so that the benefits of the schemes reach the target groups.